Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. **(Currently Amended)** A contact for a vacuum interrupter , comprising:

[[1)]] a contact plate; and

[[2)]] a contact carrier comprising:

a first end face which is fitted with the contact plate , and

a peripheral face which is formed with a slit portion in such a manner as to form a coil part, the coil part flowing a current such that a longitudinal magnetic field is formed in an axial direction of the contact carrier, the first end face fitted with the contact plate being formed with a circumferential slit portion which connects to the slit portion.

2. **(Original)** The contact for the vacuum interrupter as claimed in claim 1, wherein the contact plate is formed with a slit which connects to the circumferential slit portion.

3. **(Original)** The contact for the vacuum interrupter as claimed in claim 1, wherein

when the contact carrier defines an outer diameter D in a following range:

$60 \text{ mm} \leq D \leq 200 \text{ mm}$;

the contact carrier defines a length L in a following range:

$0.1D \text{ mm} \leq L \leq 0.5D \text{ mm}$,

the slit portion formed in the peripheral face of the contact carrier is defined in number S1 as follows:

$0.03D \text{ /mm} \leq S1 \leq 0.1D \text{ /mm}$,

relative to an axis of the contact carrier, the slit portion formed in the peripheral face of the contact carrier defines an inclination angle α expressed as below:

$60° \leq \alpha \leq 80°$,

the slit portion formed in the peripheral face of the contact carrier defines an azimuth angle β expressed as below:

$45° \leq \beta \leq 120°$, and

the circumferential slit portion formed in the first end face of the contact carrier

defines an azimuth angle γ expressed as below:

$$(30/S1)° \leq \gamma \leq (270/S1)°.$$

4. **(Original)** The contact for the vacuum interrupter as claimed in claim 3, wherein the contact carrier has a wall thickness W in a following range:

$$6 \text{ mm} \leq W \leq 12 \text{ mm}.$$

5. **(Original)** The contact for the vacuum interrupter as claimed in claim 2, wherein

the slit formed in the contact plate is substantially linear and extends radially from a center of the contact plate , and

the slit formed in the contact plate connects to a section connecting the circumferential slit portion and the slit portion which is formed in the peripheral face of the contact carrier.

6. **(Original)** The contact for the vacuum interrupter as claimed in claim 2, wherein

the slit formed in the contact plate is substantially linear and extends radially from a center of the contact plate, and

the slit formed in the contact plate connects to an initial end of the circumferential slit portion.

7. **(Original)** The contact for the vacuum interrupter as claimed in claim 2, wherein

the slit formed in the contact plate is substantially linear, and extends in such a manner as to be offset from a line passing through a center of the contact plate,
the slit formed in the contact plate extends in parallel with the line through the center of the contact plate by a predetermined distance, and

the slit formed in the contact plate connects to an initial end of the circumferential slit portion.

8. **(Original)** The contact for the vacuum interrupter as claimed in claim 1, wherein

the contact carrier further comprises a second end face opposite to the first end face, and

the second end face of the contact carrier is joined with a contact end plate.

9. **(Original)** The contact for the vacuum interrupter as claimed in claim 1, wherein

the contact carrier is monolithic with a contact end plate.

10. **(Original)** The vacuum interrupter as claimed in claim 1, wherein a pair of the contacts are disposed in such a manner as to oppose each other substantially coaxially, the opposing contacts defining a predetermined gap G therebetween in a following range:

$$15 \text{ mm} \leq G \leq 100 \text{ mm}.$$

11. **(Currently Amended)** A vacuum interrupter , comprising:

a first contact fixed to a peak end of a stationary rod which is fixed to a first end plate of a vacuum container; and

a second contact fixed to a peak end of a movable rod which is fixed to a second end plate of the vacuum container opposite to the first end plate, the second contact opposing the first contact substantially coaxially in such a manner as to define a predetermined gap G therebetween in a following range:

$$15 \text{ mm} \leq G \leq 100 \text{ mm},$$

each of the first contact and the second contact, comprising:

[[1)]] a contact plate; and

[[2)]] a contact carrier comprising:

a first end face which is fitted with the contact plate, and

a peripheral face which is formed with a slit portion in such a manner as to form a coil part, the coil part flowing a current such that a longitudinal magnetic field is formed in an axial direction of the contact carrier, the first end face fitted with the contact plate being formed with a circumferential slit portion which connects to the slit portion.

12. **(Original)** The vacuum interrupter as claimed in claim 11, wherein the contact plate is formed with a slit which connects to the circumferential slit portion.

13. **(Original)** The vacuum interrupter as claimed in claim 11, wherein

when the contact carrier defines an outer diameter D in a following range:

$60 \text{ mm} \leq D \leq 200 \text{ mm}$;

the contact carrier defines a length L in a following range:

$0.1D \text{ mm} \leq L \leq 0.5D \text{ mm}$,

the slit portion formed in the peripheral face of the contact carrier is defined in number S1 as follows:

$0.03D \text{ /mm} \leq S1 \leq 0.1D \text{ /mm}$,

relative to an axis of the contact carrier, the slit portion formed in the peripheral face of the contact carrier defines an inclination angle α expressed as below:

$60° \leq \alpha \leq 80°$,

the slit portion formed in the peripheral face of the contact carrier defines an azimuth angle β expressed as below:

$45° \leq \beta \leq 120°$, and

the circumferential slit portion formed in the first end face of the contact carrier defines an azimuth angle γ expressed as below:

$(30/S1)° \leq \gamma \leq (270/S1)°$.

14. **(Original)** The vacuum interrupter as claimed in claim 13, wherein the contact carrier has a wall thickness W in a following range:

$6 \text{ mm} \leq W \leq 12 \text{ mm}$.

Claims 15-21 **(Canceled)**

22. **(Currently Amended)** A vacuum interrupter , comprising:

two contacts disposed coaxially to oppose each other, a predetermined gap G between the two contacts being given by $15 \text{ mm} \leq G \leq 100 \text{ mm}$, each of the two contacts comprising:

a plate;

a carrier having a first end face mounted to the plate; and

slits formed in the carrier, the slits defining a coil portion in the carrier, a current passing through the coil portion generating a longitudinal magnetic field along an axial direction of the carrier,

the slits comprising a first slit which comprises:

a circumferential slit portion formed in the first end face of the carrier, and

an inclined slit portion formed in a peripheral face of the carrier at a predetermined inclination angle α with respect to an axis of the carrier and connected to an end of the circumferential slit portion ~~The vacuum interrupter as claimed in claim 21~~, wherein the slits further comprises a second slit formed in the peripheral face of the carrier at the predetermined inclination angle α and extending from an axially middle position of the carrier.

23. **(Original)** The vacuum interrupter as claimed in claim 22, wherein the second slit has an opening in the second end face of the carrier.

24. **(Original)** The vacuum interrupter as claimed in claim 22, wherein when an outer diameter D of the carrier is $60 \text{ mm} \leq D \leq 200 \text{ mm}$,

a length L of the carrier is given by $0.2D \text{ mm} \leq L \leq D \text{ mm}$,

a total number S2 of the first slits and the second slits is given by $0.1D \text{ /mm} \leq S2 \leq 0.2D \text{ /mm}$,

the inclination angle α is given by $60° \leq \alpha \leq 80°$,

an azimuth angle β of the inclined slit portion of the first slit and the second slit is given by $(540/S2)° \leq \beta \leq (600/S2)°$,

an azimuth angle δ between the inclined slit portion of the first slit, and the second slit is given by $(120/S2)° \leq \delta \leq (600/S2)°$, and

an azimuth angle γ of the circumferential slit portion of the first slit is given by $(120/S2)° \leq \gamma \leq (600/S2)°$.

25. **(Original)** The vacuum interrupter as claimed in claim 24, wherein a wall thickness W of the carrier is 6 mm $\leq$ W $\leq$ 12 mm.

26. **(Original)** The vacuum interrupter as claimed in claim 22, wherein the second slit comprises a circumferential slit portion (N/A) formed in a second end face (1b) of the carrier.

Claims 27-28 **(Canceled)**